GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1993
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2016
Study of Basic Sciences
Vasava Shri Parbhubhai Nagarbhai

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make efforts rejuvenate the reducing interest of students in basic sciences specially in rural areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of funds allocated and spent for the said purpose during the current five year plan; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to improve the situation in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)
(a) Yes, Madam.
(b) to (d) : The Ministry has launched the Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA), a convergent framework across School Education and Higher Education aiming to encourage children towards learning Sciences and Mathematics and to develop their interest through activities related to Science and Mathematics. One of the interventions under RAA is strengthening of school Science and Mathematics; laboratories, through the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA). Further, under RMSA, important interventions i.e. Science Fair/Exhibition and Talent Search at district level; mathematics and science kits to schools, visit of students to higher educational intuitions and learning enhancement of students have been approved. The state wise funds allocated and spent during 12th year plan on these interventions is Annexed −A.
Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Awards Scheme a component of INSPIRE Program is being implemented by Ministry of Science & Technology for attraction of talent amongst the students to study Science and pursue career with research. Under INSPIRE Awards Scheme students of 10-15 years of age studying in class 6-10th are selected from all the middle and high school across the country for an INSPIRE Award of Rs.5000/-. The awardees who are given INSPIRE Award of Rs.5000/- then participate in a three tier competition viz. District, State and National.
Details of expenditure incurred under the said scheme in the current Five year plan is Annexed −B.